



**COUNTY OF PLACER  
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION**

**JOSHUA P. HUNTSINGER**  
Agricultural Commissioner  
Sealer of Weights & Measures

**AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION MEMBERS**

|                |                  |
|----------------|------------------|
| Tony Aguilar   | Larry Jordan     |
| Patricia Beard | William Morebeck |
| James Brenner  | John Nitta       |
| Dan Macon      | Stewart Perry    |
| Wayne Vineyard |                  |

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**MINUTES**

**PLACER COUNTY AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION MEETING**

**MARCH 14, 2016**

**Members Present:** Tony Aguilar, Patricia Beard, James Brenner, Larry Jordan, Dan Macon, William Morebeck, John Nitta, Stewart Perry, Wayne Vineyard

**Members Absent:** None

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- I. CALL TO ORDER** – 7:03 pm by Wayne Vineyard
- II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA FOR MARCH 14, 2016 AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 8, 2016.** Motion to approve: *Jordan / Aguilar /MPUV*
- III. PUBLIC COMMENT** - None
- IV. ACTION ITEM**  
**DISCUSSION OF RESPONSE TO WILLIAMSON ACT CANCELLATION** – Josh Huntsinger, Placer County Agricultural Commissioner
- Commission reviewed letter drafted by Dan Macon, discussed tone and content, agreed it makes the appropriate statements.
  - Public comment from Michael Garabidian regarding tax inequity and disappointment in the Board of Supervisors
  - After public comment and questions posed by the commission members, it was determined that this letter will have no affect on the decision already made by the Board of Supervisors regarding the Rickey Ranch property. The Commission is hopeful their points will be considered for future early cancellations of Williamson Act lands.
  - At the conclusion of the hearing, the commission voted to approve the letter as written and send it to the Board of Supervisors. Motion: Jordan, Second: Beard, MPUV.

**V REPORTS**

**A. Agricultural Marketing Program** – Josh Huntsinger

- PlacerGrown has a brand new look. Updating with pictures and contact information of area farms. Produce Alive video featured in PlacerGrown Twitter feed. More videos to come, will feature individual farms with focus on different products and avenues of distribution. Activated an Instagram account
- Upcoming events: Farm & Barn Tour, Crop to Table Top may have a Spring and Fall event, PlacerGrown Week and, Farm to Fork Festival.

- Considering new marketing giveaways, continue offering the gift bags as they're popular and useful.
- Planning a Social Media Training for Farmers.

**B. Economic Development Board – Lyndell Grey**

- No report.

**C. Livestock and Natural Resources Farm Advisor – Roger Ingram**

- Roger gave a report on rainfall, forage, and upcoming UCCE classes and training opportunities. Mentioned Eric Hansen's Memorial service will be held at noon Sunday, March 20, 2016.

**D. Horticulture and Small Farms Advisor – Cindy Fake**

- Cindy gave a report on research and things going on with Horticulture and Small Farms Advisors office. Also noted a small memorial service for Eric the Auburn Farmer's market.

**D. Water Supply Update – Josh Huntsinger**

- PCWA and NID invited back after April 1, 2016 snow survey.
- Sub watershed hired staff to check on irrigated land and verify enrollment, only 2 properties left to enroll in Butte and Placer counties. Proposed fines were \$53K. Ag Commissioner stepped in to aid enrollment of Placer farm – hoping to avoid fine.

**VI. AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER'S REPORT – Josh Huntsinger**

- Assessments and valuation process – Future agenda item?
- Parker Dam deadline in April.
- Centennial Reservoir – CEO drafted one letter condensed from many input sources, including the Agricultural Commission.
- Future item coming regarding split of property
- Medical Marijuana has completed 12 MACs and 1 Town Hall meeting. All MACs recommend moving forward. Finishing up Public Outreach then back to Board of Supervisors for discussion and direction in regard to how to move forward with ordinance.
- Will invite OES/CalFire to future meeting to discuss how Agriculture community and can help when large fires occur, with a vegetation management program.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT – 8:48 p.m.**

- Next meeting April 11, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.